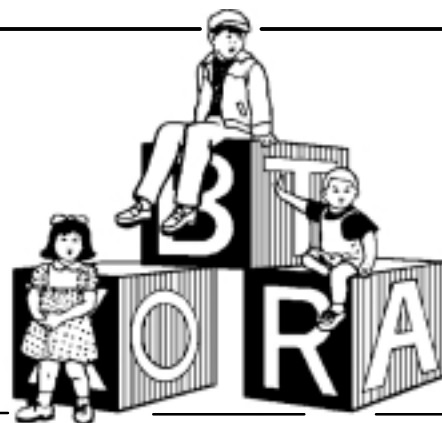



# Building Blocks to Safety

*A newsletter for prevention of childhood injuries.*



 North Dakota Department of Health

Fall 2000

Division of Maternal and Child Health



## Mark Your Calendar!

ment of  
sponsoring  
an Injury Prevention and Traffic Safety conference. The conference will be held November 6 through 8, 2000, at the Doublewood Inn in Bismarck, N.D. A variety of topics will be covered at this conference, including death-scene

The North Dakota Department of Health and North Dakota Department of Transportation are

investigations, adolescent suicide prevention, firearm injury prevention, why adolescents are at high-risk for injuries, high school and work site seat belt programs, law enforcement's role in injury prevention, children and agricultural tasks, child passenger safety, gangs, and more. Keynote speakers are Captain Thomas Didone from the Montgomery County Police in Maryland and Katrina Altnhofen from the Iowa Department of Health, Emergency Medical Services. For more information call 800.472.2286, press 1.

## New Standards for Window Guards

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has developed new safety standards for window guards that will help parents protect their children from window falls. The industry standards developed at the urging of CPSC ensure that guards are strong enough to prevent falls and that those for single family homes and the lower floors of apartment buildings can be opened easily for escape in the event of a fire.

CPSC estimates that about 12 children 10 years old and younger die each year and more than 4,000 are treated in hospital emergency rooms for window fall-related injuries. CPSC knows of 120 window fall-related deaths to children since 1990. Most of the deaths and injuries are to children younger than age 5.

Window guards screw into the side of a window frame and have bars no more than 4 inches apart. They are sold in different sizes for various-sized windows and adjust for width. Guards must meet requirements for spacing and strength, and those

that allow for escape in case of emergencies must be difficult for very young children to open.

CPSC guidelines to prevent window falls are:

- ◆ Install window guards to prevent children from falling out of windows. (For windows on the sixth floor and below, install window guards that adults and older children can open easily in case of fire. For windows on the seventh floor and above, permanent window guards can be installed).
- ◆ Guards should be installed in children's bedrooms, parents' bedroom and other rooms where young children spend time.
- ◆ Never depend on screens to keep children from falling out of windows.
- ◆ Whenever possible, open windows from the top, not the bottom.
- ◆ Keep furniture away from windows to discourage children from climbing near windows.

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# Recall of Bouncer Seats

Kids II is voluntarily recalling about 99,000 bouncer seats for in-home repair. The removable toy bar that attaches to the seat can release suddenly and cause injuries to babies.

Only Kids II bouncer seats with semi-circular toy bars are recalled. These bouncer seats were sold under the names "Soft Toy Bouncer Seat" or "Comfort Me Bouncer." The Kids II logo is embroidered on each seat's crotch strap. Each seat has certain model and lot numbers, which are found on a tag attached to the seat. The Comfort Me Bouncers feature vibration and soothing sounds, including music, waves and heartbeat. Each semi-circular toy bar has three toys. Some of the recalled seats came with white toy bar tethers. Mass merchandise and juvenile specialty stores nationwide sold the seats from October 1997 through April 2000.

Consumers should remove the semi-circular toy bars immediately and contact Kids II for an in-home repair kit. The baby can sit in the bouncer seat as long

as the toy bar is removed. Consumers should call Kids II toll-free at 877.325.7056 for a free repair kit.

Seats recalled are as follows:

- ◆ Cow-printed fabric – Model 6652, lot numbers 96910257, 10263, 10404, 10487, 10563, 10780 and 10818
- ◆ Toy-box printed fabric – Model 6657, lot numbers 10875 or 10930
- ◆ Nursery-rhyme fabric – Model 6659, lot numbers 11003



Kids II bouncer seats with rectangular-shaped toy bars are not subject to this recall.

## Playtex Pacifiers Recalled



Playtex Products Inc. is voluntarily recalling about 1.8 million Classic Patterns "Cherubs" and Soft Comfort latex pacifiers. Because the latex ages faster than normal, the nipple can detach from the shield, presenting a choking hazard to babies.

The Classic Patterns have the word "Cherub" embossed in bold block letters on the colored knob of the pacifier shield. The Soft Comfort pacifiers have a soft, butterfly-shaped shield, available with or without a swivel handle. The word "Playtex" is embossed on the pacifier's swivel handle. The pacifiers come in a variety of colors and designs and were packaged individually or in sets of two.

Stores nationwide sold the pacifiers before June 2000. Consumers should stop using the recalled pacifiers immediately and return them directly to Playtex for a free replacement pacifier or a \$3 coupon toward the purchase of another Playtex infant feeding or soothing product. For more information, call Playtex toll-free at 800.522.8230.

(continued from page 1)

Consumers can call the following companies for more information about purchasing window guards: John Sterling Corp. at 800.367.5726, LL Building Products at 800.755.9392, or Automatic Specialties at 800.445.2370.

Window guards are priced between \$10 and \$30 and have different configurations. Consumers should compare features to determine which guards best suit their needs.

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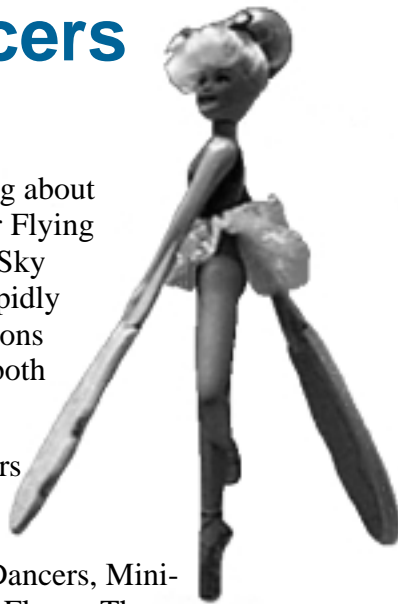


## Sky Dancers Recalled

Galoob Toys is recalling about 8.9 million Sky Dancer Flying dolls. The hard plastic Sky Dancer dolls can fly rapidly in unpredictable directions and can hit and injure both children and adults.

The recalled Sky Dancers dolls were sold in many different styles, including Pretty Lights Sky Dancers, Mini-Sky Dancers and Fairy Flyers. The dolls have stiff foam wing-covered arms that propel the doll when it is launched. The launchers—sold in many shapes including dolphins, flowers, moon, ponies, and sun and rainbow—have a molded plastic base and a pull-cord is pulled to launch the doll. Mass merchandise and toy stores sold the dolls from November 1994 through June 2000.

Consumers should stop using these flying dolls immediately and call Galoob for more information and instructions about how to return the toy sets to receive a product of equal value toll-free at 877.598.5599.



## Teething Rings Recalled

Whitehall-Robbins Healthcare is voluntarily recalling about 475,000 teething rings. When bent, these teething rings can fit into an infant's mouth and trigger a gagging reflex. This poses a risk of vomiting, which could result in choking and aspiration.

The teethers were sold with .25 oz tubes of Baby Anbesol Grape Gel, an oral anesthetic. The teethers are yellow and shaped like rabbits and are about 3 inches long and 2.25 inches high. Two holes are molded into the teething ring for infants to grasp. The packaging reads "The Baby's Teething Kit" and "Fast Teething Pain Relief." Mass merchandise, drug and grocery stores nationwide sold Baby Anbesol with these teethers from May 1999 through June 2000.



Consumers should take these teething rings away from infants immediately. Consumers also should contact Whitehall-Robbins Healthcare at 800.525.2607 for information about returning the teething ring in order to receive a free Anbesol product.

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## Spinning Ride Toy Recalled

Today's Kids is recalling about 103,000 spinning ride toys. The center column can break, causing a child to fall backward suddenly or be hit in the face by the broken column.

The Music & Lights Kidaround Spinner™ is a purple turntable with a green column through the middle, which is tipped by a yellow steering wheel. The toy plays five songs and lights flash while the child is spinning. The sticker on the center of the steering wheel reads "today's kids®." Toy and discount stores nationwide sold these spinning ride toys from July 1999 through May 2000.

Consumers should take these spinning ride toys away from children immediately and contact Today's Kids for more information and for instructions about how to get a free, replacement spinning toy at 800.916.8697.



# Children's Rocking Chairs Recalled

Jetmax International Ltd. is voluntarily recalling to repair about 48,000 children's rocking chairs. The rear legs of the chair can separate from the rocker's base, causing it to collapse and the child seated in the chair to fall. The rocker was imported exclusively for Target stores.

The wooden rocking chairs come in two styles: one for boys and one for girls. The boy's rocker is yellow, red and blue, and the girl's rocker is white, purple and pink. There is no writing on the chairs. The chairs are designed for children who weigh between 30 and 100 pounds, they are 23 inches long, 13 inches wide and 16.5 inches high.

Consumers should stop using these rockers immediately and contact Jetmax to get a free repair kit with easy installation instructions. For more information and to get the repair kit, call Jetmax at 800.880.0714.



# Graco Recalls Infant Walkers

Graco Children's Products Inc. is recalling about 31,000 Tot Wheels Entertainer Activity Center infant walkers for repair. These walkers can collapse unexpectedly during use and injure infants.

The recalled Tot Wheels Entertainer Activity Center infant walkers, with "bouncing action" and five-position height adjustment, have model numbers 4032LN or 4032BLA, located underneath the front of the walker's tray. The walker has a removable green play tray with 12 activities, including a steering wheel, ball spinner and flashing lights. Mass merchandise, juvenile products and major discount department stores nationwide, including Wal-Mart and Toys R Us, sold the walkers from September 1999 through February 2000. Consumers should stop using these walkers immediately and call Graco for a free repair kit, which includes a replacement tray at 800.345.4109.



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